

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Edwards et al. **GROUP:** Unknown

SERIAL NO: Unknown **EXAMINER:** Unknown
(Continuation appln. of ser. no. 09/490,222)

FILED: Herewith

FOR: MACHINING SIMULATION METHOD AND APPARATUS

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1 (Original). A method for machining simulation, comprising the steps of:

(a) determining a plurality of regular volumes containing surfaces of an object representing a raw stock;

(b) determining a subset of said plurality of regular volumes coincident with a swept volume representing a tool movement;

(c) applying a pointer to each said regular volume of said subset, said pointer referring to said tool movement.

2 (Original). The method as claimed in claim 1, comprising the step:

(d) repeating the steps (b) and (c) for each tool movement of a predetermined plurality of tool movements.